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# AMMAA NEWS

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Christian Endeavor Society, Armenian Evangelical Martyrs' Church, Aleppo.



# GIVERS AND TAKERS

— G.H. Chopourian, Editor

I heard a well versed gentleman say, "People may be divided into two categories, givers and takers."

I am not sure that humanity can be categorized that simply. There are those who are masochistic, wreckers, the complacent, and so forth. But the words of the gentleman have stayed with me for some inexplicable reason. The words took on greater significance when I began to think of an editorial on the heroes of Vartanank story. I saw a deeper meaning in the story.

I thought of Albert Schweitzer, for instance. Schweitzer, just out of the University to enter professional life, received an invitation from the University as Professor of Philosophy. A second invitation came from a Music Conservatory since he was a master of Bach's music. But, Schweitzer came across an advertisement which sought a recruit to labor in dark Africa in christian work—Africa, which was deep in poverty and ignorance! Schweitzer decided to go. With a Medical diploma in his hands, he entered the mission field and served for 40 long years in Lambarini in his mud-brick hospital. He spread light through education, and faith through the Gospel, to those in hopeless condition.

He was a giver!

It is in this context of giving that I began to understand Vartan Mamigonian and his soldiers more deeply. We celebrate the event on February 17, St. Vartan's Day.

The historical facts are simple. The Persians followed a policy of assimilation which they tried to implement by (1)

economic oppression, (2) replacement of local Armenian administrators, (3) diversion tactics for the Armenian army and (4) religious proselitism. The Armenians resisted, the Battle of Avarayr was fought in 451 A.D. and lost, with 1036 soldiers and Vartan himself losing their lives. The resistance, based on preserving nation and the nation's christian faith, continued until freedom of religion was gained about 20 years later.

The fascinating national survey by Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance, released last spring, shows that "the level of our religious commitment. . . is a stronger determinant of our values than whether we are rich or poor, young or old, male or female, black or white, weak or strong, liberal or conservative." It means religious commitment is total giving—time, talent, wealth, life! That's what Vartan was, a "total giver" while others in those circumstances tried to "receive" by efforts for compromise.

Another aspect of the value of giving, which structures and builds nations and lives, is that the giver also "receives." Vartan, in giving received! He won the hearts of his compatriots, as well as their love and respect, throughout the 1531 years that have followed to our day. He became famous for all time; his "giving" recorded his name in the annals of history.

We should be grateful for Avarayr's contribution to our lives for "Gratitude is a fruit of great cultivation; you do not find it among gross people." (Ben Johnson)

## LESSONS FOR YOUTH FROM THE BATTLE OF AVARAYR

On May 26, 451 A.D. the Persian and Armenian armies were lined up for battle. Vartan, the General of the loyal Armenian Army, said to his soldiers, "Brave men! Great is the work that God will perform through us. . . On for Christ and Victory!"

The battle was lost but four values were achieved in this fight for faith:

- . . . First, the Christian faith of the Armenian people was really strengthened. They began to realize that man is at his best when he is a follower of the truths Jesus taught.
- . . . Second, the truth was learned that the spirit is stronger than the sword. "They that trust in the Lord, shall renew their strength," says the Bible. Our nation learned that we must first seek the kingdom of God.
- . . . Third, the Armenian Apostolic Church was strengthened.
- . . . Finally, Vartan and his successors retained for us the right to Freedom of conscience—freedom to believe and worship according to one's own conscience. This freedom means to give people the truth, teach them what is right, and then let them decide to accept it or reject it.



Vartan Mamigonian and Ghevont Yeretz

# VARTANANK: DEFEAT TO VICTORY



Puzant J. Shamlian

## Editor's Note:

The author of the article, "Vartanank: Defeat to Victory," Puzant J. Shamlian, is the proprietor of a wholesale and retail paint store in San Francisco, but his efforts to rise to prominence in the business goes back to 52 years. He has his own formulas for a line of furniture refinishing products as well as artist oil and acrylics. He has distinguished himself also as an artist of portraits and landscapes. But the most unique facet of his business is his specialty of matching colors by eye. Given a color sample which is not a stock color, he can match "any color to any type finish."

Born in Marash in 1899, and the eldest in a family of four brothers and five sisters, he came to California in 1920 as a refugee after a stint in tanning at his father's big tannery, a year at the American University of Beirut and after news of the massacre of 15,000 Armenians in Marash. He learned quickly in California that to succeed here he must be able to work within the framework of the

existing society or improve it by his own efforts. Anyone who has walked the streets of the City of Seven Hills and seen the clean, beautifully painted row and row of houses cannot but know Puzant Shamlian has had a big share in improving the physical environment. But, his greater goal is that the human environment shall improve and to that end he has lived the sound moral and ethical life.

It is a fact that the civilization, culture, and destiny of a nation depend much on its past history and leaders. The history of nations also demonstrates that often a calamity, a tragic episode is turned to victory by way of reaction.

Historical records indicate the Armenian political situation in the 4th and 5th centuries was grave on the one hand, and on the other, was rather colorful and favorable culturally and religiously. In the words of Charles Dickens, ". . . it was the best of times and the worst of times."

In the 5th century, we find Armenia divided into two kingdoms: the Eastern Kingdom, whose king was Khosrove IV, and the Western Kingdom, which had Arshag III as its king. Apparently, even though the internal affairs of these two kingdoms were governed by the Armenian kings, they were actually under the rule of two outside powers. The eastern Kingdom of Khosrove IV was under the protectorate of Theodosius, the Roman Emperor; and the Western Kingdom, under Arshag III, was ruled by the Persian King of Kings (Shah-in Shah), Shabuh III. These two supreme

By Puzant J. Shamlian  
rulers, Theodosius and Shabuh, had a secret treaty between them to keep Armenia divided to prevent it from ever regaining its own full power as a united empire.

Upon the death of Arshag, Khosrove, the king of Eastern Armenia, tried to unite the Armenians into one kingdom. As a result of his efforts to do so, he was imprisoned by the Persian king, Vram the Fourth, who in turn appointed Vramshabuh to the throne as the Armenian king.

Vramshabuh, as a true patriot, and because of his wisdom and diplomacy, won the hearts and regained the confidence of his two neighboring rulers. His actions gave a new favorable turn to the existing tense conditions. During his reign, the alphabet of Armenian letters was developed by Sahag Barteve and Mesrob Mashdotz, and the Bible was translated into the Armenian language. These developments brought forth a new culture, a richer literature, and a spiritual revival. It was a "Golden Age" era which put the Armenians in the front rank among Christian nations.

The Armenians' sanction of and identity with the ideals of Christian faith intensified the hatred of the neighboring Persians who were fireworshippers. By the year 438 A.D., we find the Persian King of Kings establishing his rule over the Armenians through a system of Marzbans who were invested with power to rule over the Armenians in addition to being granted unlimited privileges to use every conceivable means

## The Inspirational Corner

### SINGULAR INSPIRATION: AN INSPIRING EXAMPLE

The following true story comes to us from Beirut, gleaned from the Bulletin of the First Armenian Evangelical Church.

"A Pastor and his deacon were visiting the Armenian Home for the Aged in Beirut. Here was a man who was blind, with no immediate family relations, who should have had self pity on himself. But he was a believing Christian and therefore came up with a

surprise. This elderly man did not even find time to enjoy the visitors! His hands were seen moving back and forth under the cover as though searching for something. A minute of this nervous motion, and behold a bunch of paper money in his hands! Pushing the bunch on towards the visitors, he said, 'This is for the poor, Badveli. Please put your hand on my head during your prayer for me!'

"Pastor and deacon learned a lesson. The blind believer, who is currently enjoying the care and the concern of the Home, regardless of the modest condition of the Institution, was thanking God in a uniquely inspiring way."

It's a simple Christian axiom that giving has no relationship to having. The more one gives, the more one has. The more one is mightier than the gold coin.



## AEUNA COMMENDS THE AMAA

Dr. Peter Doghramji, Executive Secretary of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, has written a letter of appreciation to the President of AMAA, Mr. George Philibosian, praising the Association for services rendered to the Union. Since the contents reveal so clearly the close cooperation and the oneness of the fellowships, it was felt the letter should be made public. It is gratifying that the Mission founded and supported loyally by the churches is commended. Editor.

"Dear Mr. Philibosian:

Before 1981 comes to a close, I would like to express the gratitude and appreciation of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America to its Board, Officers, Staff, and especially the Executive and Field Directors for services joyfully and effectively rendered to the Armenian Evangelical family in America and abroad. We are grateful



Peter B. Doghramji

for your leadership and dedication and for the untiring efforts of the Executive Director in making the AMAA an effective instrument of God's love.

"I would like to lift up some specific areas in which the AMAA has been of

special assistance to the work of the AEUNA:

1. The Capital Fund pledge of \$250,000 for AEUNA was a major step in the long-term financial stability of the Union – we want to thank the Stephen Philibosian Foundation and Dr. Joyce Philibosian Stein for their kindness and generosity in pledging that sum *in toto*. We hope that Moderator Kassouni's idea of the Armenian Evangelical Foundation will augment that initial step and merit the support of the AMAA for a healthier economic base.
2. Assistance extended to AEUNA churches for building and capital improvements is praiseworthy. More specifically, we join our churches in San Francisco and Toronto to thank you for your support in their building projects.

to force the subjugated people into denying Christianity. Failing in this, as well as in every other form of oppression against the Armenians, the Persians finally took up arms!

Hence, the Battle of Avarayr which gave birth to Vartanantz.

When we think of Vartanantz, we think of the heroism of Vartan Mamigonian and the encouraging words of Ghevont Yeretz which strengthened the faith, minds and hearts of those brave and loyal soldiers who fought valiantly in the face of death.

On June 2nd, 451 A.D. an army of 66,000 under the leadership of General Vartan Mamigonian fought at Avarayr against a much larger and a better equipped army of 300,000 Persians.

On the battlefield Vartan the hero died, a tragedy indeed; one thousand thirty-six of his men perished too. They lie silently by the rushing waters of the Dughmood River. They are gone forever into eternity. Overwhelmed by this tragedy, a great number of the army led by traitor Vasag joined the enemy.

Despite this calamity, the heroic spirit of Vartan prevailed, giving the nation a sense of victory. The populace were

aware of the fact that Vartan Mamigonian, as the leader of this soldiers and of his people, was conscious of the fact that this battle between Persians and Armenians was not merely a fight for supremacy for power and strength, but it was also a struggle to retain and uphold our Christian faith. It was a battle to conserve the freedom of mind and the freedom of an individual's conscience. This legacy we have inherited from the heroes of our historic past still guides, teaches and illuminates the lives of Armenians today.

The commemoration of Vartanantz every year imprints once again in our hearts the heroic and courageous struggle of Vartan to preserve that which we highly value: our Christian faith. As Armenians, we could have chosen better words to illustrate the character and the heroism of Vartan other than *Kachn Vartan*.

What is courage? To have courage does not mean to dare alone; it does not mean just to be a gallant gentleman; it does not mean to be chivalrous; and it does not mean to demonstrate valor in action, alone. Courage embodies all these and more. The root of courage is

found in one's physical, mental, moral and spiritual makeup. It is found in one's beliefs, convictions and character, reinforced by Christian ideals and principles.

We love *Kachn Vartan* for walking in the steps of Christ. We admire him for his spirit, his character and we are thrilled by his valor.

Each year, thousands of Armenians come together to pay homage to the memory of Vartan and his men. We celebrate his victory over darkness. We remember once again those ideals for which he died to preserve: The freedom to think and the freedom to worship the greatest hero of all time, Jesus Christ. It was for His sake that Vartan Mamigonian and his men sacrificed their lives. We follow Vartan as the star over the turbulent and stormy sea of our national and religious life and cherish the memory of his triumphant death. Truly, we dedicate ourselves to the great cause for which he so nobly died. "Seek ye not Vartan among the dead" as he continues to be a living model in our lives.

Long live your memory in the hearts of your people, your loyal, sincere and brave followers, *Kachn Vartan*!

3. The AMAA has been of assistance in mission and outreach projects fulfilling the work of the Department of Missions and Evangelism by providing generous help to the Hollywood Mission project. Special aid has also been received by some churches to meet their budgetary needs.
4. Pastors and ministerial candidates continue to benefit from the educational grants, special subsidies, pension plans, continuing education and retreat opportunities, and various other forms of individual and group assistance that the AMAA provides. The Department of Ministerial Relations is grateful for AMAA's partnership in this important area.
5. We are appreciative of your efforts to resettle refugees, provide social services, and meet the educational needs of the Armenian communities in America. These are invaluable services rendered to us and, in our behalf, to others. The AMAA has highlighted through these services the social concerns of the AEUNA.

Once again, the AMAA has served as "Social Service" and "Education" departments of the Union.

6. The Union has staggered in its publication work, but the AMAA NEWS has well filled the gap by providing vital and up-to-date news to the Armenian Evangelical family concerning the activities of the churches, pastors, and organizations of the Union. The Department of Publication and Communication expects even more assistance in publishing and mailing the *FORUM* and in related publication work. The Armenian Evangelical image has also been beautifully portrayed in the news media.
7. The Executive and Field Directors have been liaisons among the churches and pastors of the Union in providing support, pastoral care, counsel, and pertinent information. In the absence of a full-time executive of the Union, such work becomes even more appreciated.

8. Lastly, the AMAA has kept us in touch with our brothers and sisters overseas. The greater Armenian Evangelical family is held together by the AMAA, and we are especially thankful that the AMAA continues to render this unique services through its very existence.

"We cannot adequately measure the financial ramification of the total assistance the AMAA continues to give to the Union. It is even harder to assess the time and effort which the Staff and Officers donate for our work. Perhaps some such attempt may be made by the Executive Director in his report to the VI General Assembly. But we know that the Lord is pleased by what you all are doing, and we want to add our humble but sincere gratitude and appreciation.

"With the hope and prayer that the New Year will be a blessed one for you and the entire AMAA family as you strive to reach even higher summits of dedicated service in the name of our Lord and in behalf of the Armenian Evangelical community in the world, in Christ, Peter B. Doghramji."

## NEW BOOKS

**My Autobiography In Brief** by the Rev. Mardiros H. Marganian, BA.BD. a 58-page book in Armenian and English. Can be obtained by writing to the Rev. Mardiros H. Marganian, 6915 Shoshone Avenue, Van Nuys, Calif. 91406.

**Issues Facing World Jewry**, a Report of the International Economic and Social Commission of the World Jewish Congress, this timely document explores the divisive issues facing Jewry. The volume sheds light on the main problems of the people in dispersion resembling that of the Armenian people, and can be ordered directly from Hershel Shanks, Publisher, 3111 Rittenhouse St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20015.

**#17 Musa Dagh And My Personal Memoirs** by Haroutune P. Boyadjian. In this remembrance of 135 pages, Mr. Boyadjian recounts the heroic resistance of the people of his native Musa Dagh against the atrocities of the Turks in 1915. Priced at \$3.95, this interesting book can be obtained from the AMAA Bookstore.

**#103 Linda Kondakjian's Best Recipes** is a valuable collection of recipes on Near East cookery by Linda Kondakjian. This book of more than 240 recipes from Appetizers to Desserts is contained in a handy, sturdy, hard cover ring binder available through the AMAA Bookstore at \$10.00 per copy.

**Armenian Bibles** – We have received some beautifully bound, easily readable complete Armenian Bibles:

- #13d Economy Flush Cut, with red, blue or black covers. . . . . \$ 8.00
- #13e Imitation Leather binding, black only. . . . . \$18.00
- #13f Genuine Leather, with burgundy, blue, black or brown covers. . \$25.00

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## MISSION ACTIVITIES IN OUR NORTH AMERICAN CHURCHES

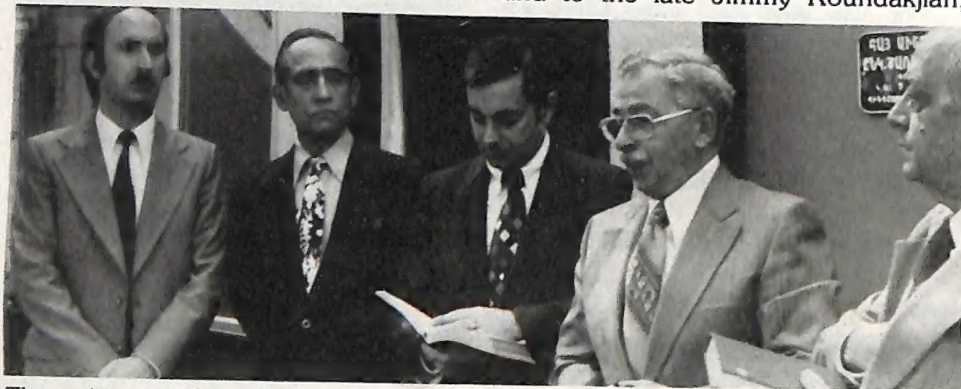
Stirrings of missionary labor appear in the bulletins of several of our North American Union churches. These range from writings on missionary stewardship to flu shots for members of congregations.

### THE IMMANUEL ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

"A Church, any Church without a missionary vision and outreach program is a dead church," writes the pastor, The Rev. E. S. Tovmassian. He continued to define the work of missions as follows: "The primary function of the Christian Church is the Great Commis-

sion of the Board of Directors of the Armenian Evangelical Outreach, Mrs. Rita Tilkian, a check for \$1,730.50 which was the Thanksgiving offering of the Immanuel Church for the needy Armenian families in the Greater Hollywood Area where many recent arrivals from Armenia and the Middle East have increased the needs.

Serving as Master of Ceremonies at the luncheon, the Rev. Tovmassian presented a short history of the Social Service Center, paying special tribute to Mr. Hratch Baliozian, Director of the Center since its inception five years ago and to the late Jimmy Koundakjian,



Three of the Founders of the AESSC five years ago - The Rev. Jirayr Sogomian, the late Jimmy Koundakjian and The Rev. E.S. Tovmassian 3rd, 4th and 5th from left.

sion that Jesus gave to His disciples, namely, to go out and evangelize the world by spreading the Good News of salvation. Missions is not just a department of the Church, but the Church itself. The more missionary-oriented the church becomes, the more she grows. Today, the strongest churches in America are those which follow the Great Commission of the Master," he concluded.

The Immanuel Church in Downey, in an act of commendation and encouragement, recognized the good work of the staff and volunteers of the Armenian Evangelical Social Center and the Armenian Evangelical Outreach, at a luncheon on Sunday, December 6. Preceding the luncheon honoring the leaders, the Rev. Edward Tovmassian, Pastor of the Church, preached the English sermon, and the Rev. Abraham Chaparian, pastoring the Outreach Program, preached the Armenian sermon. Mr. Harry Savoian, Chairman of the church Council, presented the Chair-

man of the Board of Directors of the Armenian Evangelical Outreach, Mrs. Rita Tilkian, a check for \$1,730.50 which was the Thanksgiving offering of the Immanuel Church for the needy Armenian families in the Greater Hollywood Area where many recent arrivals from Armenia and the Middle East have increased the needs. Serving as Master of Ceremonies at the luncheon, the Rev. Tovmassian presented a short history of the Social Service Center, paying special tribute to Mr. Hratch Baliozian, Director of the Center since its inception five years ago and to the late Jimmy Koundakjian,

All were moved by a spirit of gratitude to God for the founders, director, the staff, the volunteers, the faithful supporters and the Board members. The work of Mrs. Hasmig Collier among the women and children was also recognized.

### ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The young people of AEYF recently planned and executed two programs: (1) Trick-or-Treat on Halloween night to collect funds for the AMAA's Child Education Program; (2) Group Fast, having the same intent.

On behalf of the youth of the first Armenian Church of Belmont, the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown, and the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto, Canada, John Baboian, AEYF President, turned in \$262.00 from their Trick-or-Treat activity and Ron Tovmassian provided \$400.00 from the Group Fast from the Western Region of APEY.

The youth of the Armenian Presbyterian Church, on same campus as the AMAA Headquarters, also undertook a Group Fast. Aside from the value of the experience which was rightly emphasized by their Pastor, the Rev. Karl Avakian, they provided \$175.75 to the AMAA for the Child Education Program.

If a church with missionary vision and outreach comes alive and also works towards the orientation of our youth in stewardship, it lays the right foundation for strong churches. Praise the Lord there are such efforts.

### ARMENIAN MEMORIAL CHURCH OF WATERTOWN

The Church Worship folder, edited by Pastor Vincent Kumjian, announces: "Dr. Edward Karian has again volun-



Edward Karian

teered his services, and flu vaccine inoculations will be administered following the church service. Donations in appreciation may be made to the Church." That's social action; that's loving concern for the health of the congregation.

### UNITED ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

On Sunday, November 15, 1981, the Missions Committee of the UACC held a highly successful Dinner Benefit for the programs of the Armenian Missionary Association of America. Close to 400 persons were in attendance to support the outreach ministry of the Church by supporting the annual AMAA luncheon held in their large social hall. The newly installed Associate Pastor, the Rev. Berdj Djam-bazian, was the speaker and the newly appointed West Coast Director of the AMAA, Dr. Pepronia Merjanian, was introduced by Mrs. Alice Haig, Vice President of the AMAA. Special instrumental selections were provided by several of the College youth of the Church. The AMAA has received a substantial amount from the Missions Committee made possible by the donations to those in attendance.

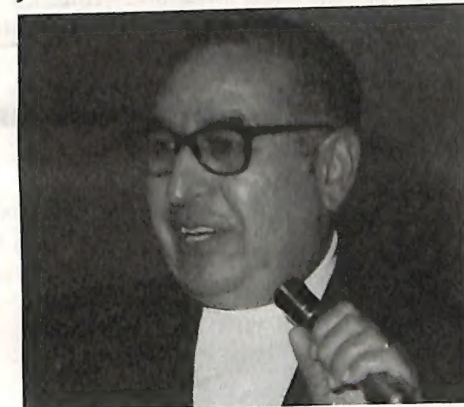
### ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF SAN DIEGO

Fifty adults and children enjoyed dinner on the afternoon of November 22, 1981 in the recreational building of the Sarkissian property followed by an inspirational service led by the Rev. G. D. Minassian who preached from the text in Luke 17:11-19 and the Rev. Edward Tovmassian who brought his particular share of the message. Mrs. Peggy Sarkissian was hostess, assisted by others including Arpi Banerian, Grace Aloyan, Jean Morris, Flora Lion and Nevart Palanjian. Dr. Edward L. Albarian, a generous contributing member of the Armenian Missionary Association, pre-

sided at the service. Mission life continues therefore in San Diego after an interruption of a few months. We are grateful to the Rev. Minassian for his endeavors on behalf of the AEUNA and the AMAA.

### THE FIRST ARMENIAN CHURCH OF BELMONT

The Pastor, Vartan Hartunian, has reached out to meet the need of a three-year old girl who needed a cornea transplant. Nairy, as a result of a fall, had one eye turn completely opaque, making the eye sightless. She was brought from Lebanon to Boston and the successful operation took place at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (a young 16-year old boy's cornea, available because of his accidental death, brought light to Nairy). "Had the operation not taken place," writes the Pastor in his monthly publication, "Nairy would have gone blind in both eyes in several years. The operation, post-operative



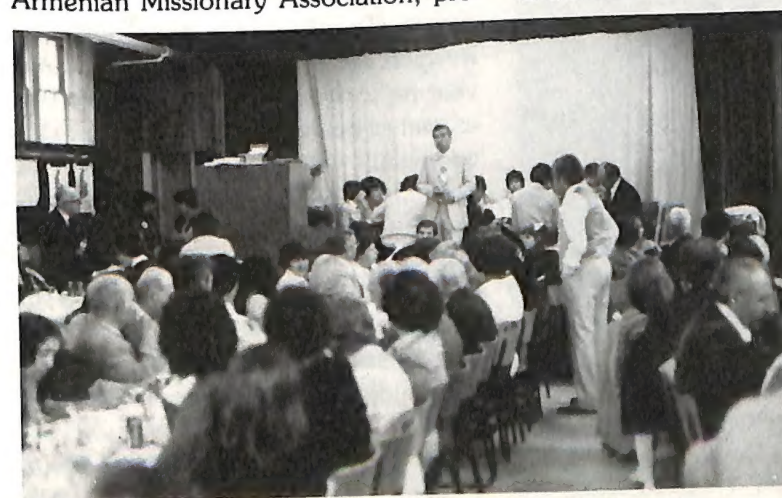
The Rev. Vartan Hartunian treatments, and follow-up treatments for the next year or so will cost approximately \$10,000 or more." The Pastor undertook to be the promoter of the

need and has already received about \$5,000 towards the expenses. Readers of this periodical may make their contribution towards Nairy's current and future needs through the AMAA for transmittal to the First Armenian Church - Nairy Eye Fund. It is through the generosity of sensitive Christians that the churches can perform their mission faithfully.

### ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

The Center continues to provide record services in the area of Acculturation, Job Development, ESL Classes, and General Information. These services include individual and group counseling, immigration and legal information, senior citizens' programs, guidance in securing lodging and furnishings, general information and referrals, job placement and English as a secondary language to adults. One of the last additions to the services rendered is the health check-up clinic for children from 4-6 years old. This is provided on Saturdays during the month of November at the Center.

Pushing on with the mission with which the Center is established, a continental breakfast meeting was planned for the community organizations functioning in the Hollywood area. The purpose of the November, 1981 meeting was to bring together representatives, directors and workers of the various public agencies and community organizations so that they could exchange experiences, ideas and the prospects of working closely together for the benefit of the immigrant community of the Hollywood area.



The Toronto Evangelical Church on two different Sundays. This growing church has purchased an additional building (to the right) which now enlarges the frontage to 100 feet. Dr. Chopourian helped in the fund raising for the \$100,000 purchase and the AMAA provided \$50,000 as a loan.



## MOVING CEREMONY MARKS INSTALLATION OF THE REV. BERDJ DJAMBAZIAN



The Rev. Berdj Djambazian (3rd from left)

An impressive gathering of over 300 well-wishers from the congregation of United Armenian Congregational Church and the Armenian community's clergy attended a moving ceremony recently, marking the installation of Rev. Berdj Djambazian as Associate Pastor of the United Armenian Congregational Church.

Participants included the Rev. Vartkes Kassouni, Senior Pastor of UACC, and the Reverends G.D. Minassian, Bernard Guekguezian, Norair Melidonian, Edward Tovmassian, Abe Chaparian and Church Moderator Richard Savorian.

Following the installation, a delightful reception was held in the Paul G. Avazian Hall, hosted by the Board of Deacons.

The AMAA Board welcomes the Rev. Djambazian into the U.S. Evangelical circle. His missionary zeal will be a source of inspiration.

## KIDNEY TRANSPLANT PATIENT, SEROP SEROPIAN, THANKS YOU

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of his successful



**The Deukmejian Campaign**, we have been informed, is proceeding successfully. **Armenian Power** in the office of Attorney General George Deukmejian is visible in the persons of Deputy Attorney General Lou Hanoian (left), Chief Assistant Attorney General Robert Philibosian (center), with boss, Attorney General George Deukmejian.

kidney transplant surgery, Serop Seropian has informed the Executive Director that he is enjoying the blessings of a healthy and normal life and that he is planning to open an optical shop soon in his native Damascus, Syria. Serop, now 25 years old, continues to remember with deep gratitude the benevolence of the AMAA as well as other concerned organizations and individuals for their financial help which made the successful transplant in 1977 possible, thus giving him a new lease on life.

## ARMENIAN SCIENTIST RECEIVES AIAA AWARD

Kennell J. Touryan, Ph.D., the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Vahram Touryan of Pasadena, Calif., was honored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) as the recipient of the first Energy Systems Award. The AIAA is a national professional organization of 30,000 engineers and scientists specializing in the fields of aeronautical and astronautical sciences.

The award was given at the AIAA Terrestrial Energy Systems Conference luncheon, December 2, 1981, in Colorado Springs, Colo. It cited Dr. Touryan for "notable continuing contributions to the fluid and thermal sciences, particularly thermohydraulics, solar total energy systems and MHD, and for leadership in the development of advanced solar energy programs."

Dr. Touryan is the Senior Vice President and General Manager of Flow Research Company in Kent, Washington. He, his wife, Cheryl Ann and three children, Lara, Shusan and Jonathan, reside in Bellevue, Washington.

The AMAA extends its hearty congratulations to Dr. Touryan for his achievement and wishes him continued success and happiness.

## LARRY BAKALIAN

One of our ministerial students, Laurence Nishan Bakalian, husband of Maria J. Bakalian and son of Mrs. Grace Bakalian of Upper Darby, Penna., graduated from Ursinus College in Collegeville, Penna., with the Bachelor of Arts degree last May 17, 1981. His course of study was in Philosophy and Religion. Both semesters of his senior year he was on the Dean's Honor List, as well as being involved in many extra-curricular activities. With his involvement in Jazz and classical ensembles, he was named a member of Pi Nu Epsilon, an honorary music fraternity. Prior to attending Ursinus, he was a student at Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he was also a Dean's Honor List student all three semesters he attended. His church activities have been numerous, including being Youth Director, Sunday School teacher, choir member, and church secretary. He served as president of the Armenian

Evangelical Youth Fellowship — Eastern Region, and was a member of its newspaper staff. Additionally, Larry sang with the AMAA's Sacred Music Singers, and has been involved in Armenian cultural activities.



Larry Bakalian

Presently, Larry is in his first year at the Lancaster Theological Seminary of the United Church of Christ in Lancaster, Penna. His hope is to graduate in 1984 with the Master of Divinity degree and serve among our Armenian Evangelical Churches. May God bless Larry and Maria as they prepare to serve His people.

## ARMENOOGHI CHOPOORIAN

Armenoogi Effendian, born in Istanbul, Turkey, on December 12, 1886 was brought to Philadelphia when she was nine. Her mother, grandmother and sister Anoosh were one of the first Armenians to reach the city of Brotherly Love. Through the help of a former Istanbul friend who lived in Baltimore, her mother found work with a fine establishment.

At 19 she became the prearranged bride of Mr. John Chopoorian with the ceremonies held in Yonkers, New York and were blessed with two lovely children, a daughter and a son, and two great-grand children. After a few years in New York the couple moved to Philadelphia, then to Dayton, Ohio for 25 years where she was connected with the Dayton Conservatory of Music as a voice teacher, three years in Honolulu and finally settled in Los Angeles, CA. On arriving first in Philadelphia the family attended John Wannamaker Bethany Presbyterian Church even though they did not know the English language

and are now members of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood — Presbyterians for three generations!

Armenoogi celebrated her 95th birthday on December 12, 1981.

Why this statement on her in the NEWS?

Because we want our readers to know this "young" person still bubbling with life, content, positive in outlook, always rejoicing in the Lord!

## NORAYR KHERLOPIAN OF LONDON WRITES

"I was very pleased to read in your paper about the Convention which took place in Paris. Certainly the History of the Armenian Evangelical Movement which was indirectly described there should act as a base for positive and inspiring achievements in the Armenian and other communities in U.S.A. One should not forget that we had the first modern colleges and welfare programs in Western Armenia at a very critical period of our national history. Unfortunately, the course of events during the past fifteen hundred years of Armenian Christianity have not allowed to implement reforms in our national church, which no doubt has been detrimental. The evangelical movement offers opportunities in this respect and may be considered as the continuation of reform attempts recorded in our church history. I would suggest the opening of a museum to illustrate the History of Armenian Evangelical Movement with all its roots to the past eras. It will also be a standing witness to prove the presence of Armenian religious culture in Eastern Anatolia which it seems is destined to stay in oblivion." Norayr Kherlopian

## MARTYRS' CHURCH C. E. SOCIETY

A little over 50 years ago the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches of the Near East introduced the Christian youth movement known as *Christian Endeavor Society*. The C.E. Societies of the Churches of Lebanon and Syria formed the *Christian Endeavor Union of the Near East* and in due course began a Christian publication, the "Endeavorer" (Chanasser) which has nurtured the religious life of many youth. Committing themselves to the motto, "For Christ and the Church," the members

became the informed lay leaders of the churches for more than a generation. Perhaps ninety percent of the pastors who are now leaders of the churches in the Middle East and North America have come out of the ranks of the C.E. Societies.

One cannot but wonder how many of the youth in the cover picture might become the future lay and pastoral leaders of our evangelical churches throughout the world. To that end we raise our voices to God in prayer.

## GREETINGS FROM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Nora Maya Kachaturoff, M.D.**, from Detroit: "Your scholarships and loans helped me through medical school — now only 1½ years of residence to go. Please accept this small donation."



Nora Maya Kachaturoff

**Cynthia Matossia, M.D.**, from Washington D.C. "I wish you and the AMAA staff a very Merry Christmas. I am very appreciative of all that you have done for me. I will remain in close touch with you and the organization which you direct.

"My residency is progressing well. It is difficult and challenging, to say the least. I spend between 100 & 110 hours per week at the hospital."

**Hrag M. Marganian**, Medical student, from Guadalajara:

"I am most appreciative of your financial support, without which my education would be most difficult to obtain. My thoughts are always with you and in your good works that is evident in so many other needy individuals as myself.

"I long for the day when the Good Lord will find me worthy to serve him in a manner that would be reflective of the spirit of giving that so fully manifests itself through the work of Armenian Missionary Association."



## NEWS FROM COLLEAGUES OVERSEAS

### LEBANON EVANGELICAL LEADER UPDATES AMAA BOARD ON LEBANON

We were fortunate to have Mr. Hrair Mouradian, one of the leading lay leaders among the Armenian Evangelicals of Lebanon, at the meeting of the Board of the AMAA on December 12, 1981. He reported and outlined some of the difficulties and opportunities facing our community. The Recording Secretary, Mrs. Marie Nahigian, summarized the minutes as follows:

"He said that the political situation there is at a standstill. Beirut is still divided into the East or Christian part where most of the Armenians reside and which is relatively quiet, whereas fighting still prevails in the West or Moslem part between rival political factions. There is also continuous sniper fire in some parts of the 'Green Line' dividing these areas. Activities are still going on as usual - Schools started the first week of October with a student body which is about 6 to 7 percent less than the previous year. Haigazian College has a student registration of 319, of which 182 are Armenians (57%), with 26 of that number being Armenian Evangelicals. Emigration from Lebanon has slowed down. The people are now accustomed to the instability which may continue for a long time to come. Mr. Mouradian said that major decisions must be made concerning our educational institutions, unused properties and diluted leadership in Lebanon. The local leadership feels that they must face their problems together with us and that the first step is for us to know and understand their problems. 'This cannot be decided by correspondence or casual visits alone,' said Mr. Mouradian, and recommended that we, i.e., AMAA leaders, visit the field. He said that in the past eight or nine years, 13 ministers have left to come to the U.S. Now only 10 are left, in Syria and Lebanon, of which number one is retired, one is about to retire and two are recent graduates. Seven students are preparing for the ministry. There are 15 churches and 11 schools, not including Haigazian College, NEST and Aleppo College."



**The Executive Committee of the AMAA of Argentina**, which engaged in extensive activities in 1981 recorded the following: (1) a Children's Day with a showing of films; (2) a Bazaar in homemade handicrafts; (3) Presenting evangelist/preacher C. Helen Mooshian of the U.S. to the Argentine Press; (4) Reception extended to Dr. Yeghia Babikian, President of La Verne College (A.A.I.C.); (5) Three conferences inside two months on (a) "Anxiety in Present Society," (b) "The Continuity of the Armenian Nation," and (c) "The Influence of the Bible in Armenian Culture."

### SCHOOLS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The schools which face great financial and leadership difficulties both in Syria and Lebanon are the following with their numerical registration:

#### LEBANON

Shamlian Tatikian	738
Central High School	400
Anjar High School	380
Torossian Intermediate	350
Trad Primary	180
Philibosian Sin-El-Fil	200
Gertmenian School	200
Armenian Evangelical College	237
	2,685

#### SYRIA

Armenian Evan. School, Aleppo	360
Damascus	150
Armenian Primary School, Aleppo	260
Martyrs' School, Kessab	98
	868

#### GREECE

	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,777</b>

It should be carefully noted that 85% of the student body in these schools are of the Armenian Apostolic tradition, about 14% of the Armenian Protestant tradition and 1% belong to other denominations.

Some other serious problems facing the school system, as reported to us by the Rev. Hovhannes Sarmazian of Anjar, are:

1. Since 1978, the teachers' salaries have had an official government increase of 175% and another substantial increase was put into effect on July 1, 1981.
2. Cost of living in the country has gone up more than 400%. So have all the school requirements together with Income Tax and Health Insurance Tax which the schools pay to the government. The school leadership literally struggle and battle to survive, but they look up to the Lord!

## GASPER MAGARIAN HONORED BY FRESNO CHAPTER OF AGBU

We are happy to report the account of the festivities of March 15, 1981 when Attorney Gasper Magarian was recognized by the AGBU Chapter for his contributions in service and substance to the Armenian community. We in the AMAA circles owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to him for his specific services to us.

Gasper Magarian was born in July 2, 1899, in Billerica, Massachusetts, and came to Fresno with his parents in 1903. He was the oldest of four sons and two daughters. His parents were Hagop and Aghavny Magarian. He attended the Fresno County elementary schools and graduated from Fresno High School in June 1919. He was admitted to Stanford University as a freshman student on October 1, 1919, at which time only five hundred freshmen could enter the university. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Law in June of 1923 and a doctorate (Juris Doctor) in June of 1925, from Stanford University. He successfully passed the California State Bar examination and was sworn in as a lawyer on March 1, 1926. He is a member of the State Bar of California and the Fresno County Bar Association, and has practiced law since he was admitted to the bar and qualified to practice in all of the courts of California and all of the United States Courts in California.

He married the former Aznive Barsam on April 12, 1929, at Fresno, California, and in April of 1979, Gasper and Aznive celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

The Magarians are the parents of two children, Donald and Elaine, and have five grandchildren. Donald married the former Carol Kerr in May of 1956. Elaine married Franklin Kamian in June of 1960, a pharmacist at Aptos, California. Donald practices law in Fresno with his father in the firm known as Dowling, Magarian and Perkins.

Gasper became a member of the Armenian General Benevolent Union over fifty years ago and has served the AGBU on various committees, and has been a past president of the Western District,



Gasper Magarian

Armenian General Benevolent Union. In 1975, at a convention of the AGBU Western District of United States, a fifty year membership award was presented to him in recognition of fifty years of special services. At the National Convention of the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America, Inc. held in the Eastern part of the United States, Gasper was surprised with the presentation of an honorary certificate for services rendered. Gasper and Aznive are life members of the AGBU.

Gasper is a member of the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church of Fresno, California, and has been connected with this church since he was a child, and has devoted considerable time for his church, and has held various offices and for many years, he was the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Pilgrim Church.

He is a member of the Armenian American Citizen's League, and was a past president. He is presently one of the members of the Board of Directors of the Ararat Cemetery Improvement Association of Fresno and has served as a director of this association for many years. He is one of the local committee members of the Armenian National Sanatorium. He is a member of the Triple X Fraternity of Fresno.

He is a life member of the Stanford

Alumni Association and has taken much interest in Stanford activities and aid since he was graduated from that school.

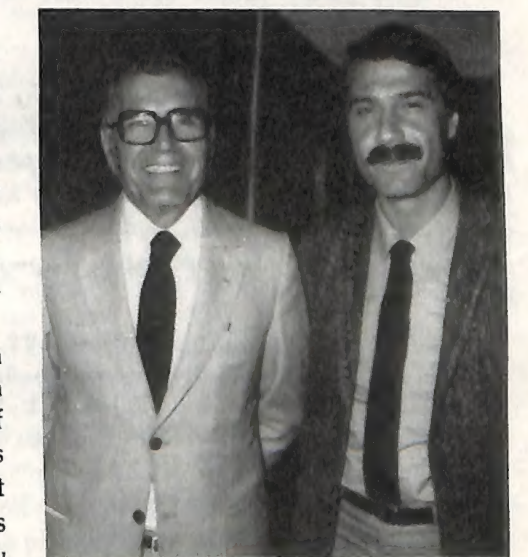
He is a member of the Knights of Vartan, Yeprad Lodge, Fresno, and has served as a commander. On May 14, 1979, he was awarded a fifty year membership certificate in recognition of his devotion and loyalty to the lodge.

He has always been interested in the Armenian Missionary Association of America, and in the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, and has attended many of their conventions, and has helped in the work of said Associations.

In the past years he has taken part in many local civic and community activities, and has given many talks for charitable organizations. He has and is still participating in the donation of his services to the Fresno County Legal Services in giving legal aid for seniors. He has given many years of legal service to the needy without any remuneration and has served in humanitarian causes.

The Board of Directors of the AMAA, its President, George Philibosian, the Executive Directors and staff salute him.

### FATHER AND SON VISIT THE AMAA HEADQUARTERS



Mr. Azad Haleblian, and his son, Ara, were welcome guests at the AMAA Headquarters. It was good to have them and to receive an update on the situation in Lebanon.



# հայերէն բաժին

## ՄԵՐՁԱԽՈՐ ԱՐԵՒԵԼՔԻ ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱԲԱՆԱԿԱՆ ՃԵՄԱՐԱՆԻ ՈՒՍԱՆՈՂԱԿԱՆ ԿԱԶՄԸ

Մերձաւոր Արեւելքի Աստուածաբանական ձեմարանի ընթացիկ տարուան աշակերտութեան թիւն է 31: Հոգեւոր ծառայութեան պատրաստող այս աշակերտները կուզան շրջանի գլխաւոր 4 Աւետարանական Միութիւններէն:--

Մերձ. Արեւելքի Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիներու Միութենէն.....9 աշակերտ  
Արաբ Աւետարանական Սինոդէն.....9 աշակերտ  
Սուտանի Աւետարանական Սինոդէն.....5 աշակերտ  
Արաբ Եպիսկոպոսական Եկեղեցիէն.....1 աշակերտ  
Այլ եկեղեցիներէ.....7 աշակերտ

1975էն ի վեր, Լիբանանի քաղաքական տաքնապին պատճառով, ձեմարանի աշակերտութեան թիւը նկատաւոր չափով նուազած է: Այսուհանդերձ, ուրախալի երեւոյթ է տեսնել, թէ Հայ աշակերտները կը շարունակեն համեմատական մեծամասնութիւն մը ներկայացնել ձեմարանի ուսանողութեան մէջ: Հայ Աւետարանող չական Ընկերակցութիւնը, այս տարի դարձեալ կը հովանաւորէ երկու հայ աշակերտներու ուսումը ձեմարանէն ներս: Աղօթենք որ ձեմարանը առանց դժուարութեան ու ընդհատումի շարունակէ իր այս տարուան դասաւանդութիւնները եւ Աստուած օրհնէ հաստատութեան ուսումնական աշխատանքները բոլոր աշակերտներուն հոգեւոր շինութեան ու պատրաստութեան համար:

## ԹԷՀՐԱՆԻ ՀԱՅ ԱՒԵՏԱՐԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՆ

Անցեալ Նոյեմբերին, Թէհրանի Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցին, իր Երիցական Կազմին որոշումով, «Պատուելի» տիտղոսը շնորհեց Պրնք. Ղազար Թովմասեանի եւ Նիկոլա Մուրատեանի, որոնց ուղղուած նամակ մը կարդալով, Կիրակնօրեայ Պաշտամունքի մը ընթացքին, Եկեղեցւոյ Հովիւր՝ Վեր. Թադէոս Միքայէլեան յայտարարեց:--

«Այսու ուրախութեամբ յայտնում եմք, որ նկատի ունենալով ձեր տարիներ ծառայութիւնը՝ կատարուած Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիում, Երիցական Կազմի որոշմամբ դուք ընդունուում էք որպէս Պատուելի՝ մեր Եկեղեցիներում: Աղօթում եմք որ Աստուած օրհնի ձեզ այս պաշտօնի մէջ եւ դուք ունենաք մեծ յաջողութիւններ եւ կարողանաք աւելի լաւ կերպով փառաւորել մեր Տէր ու Փրկիչ Յիսուս Քրիստոսին:»

Պատուելիներ Ղազար Թովմասեան եւ Նիկոլա Մուրատեան երկար տարիներէ ի վեր մեծ նուիրումով կը ծառայեն Թէհրանի Հայ Աւետարանական Համայնքին:

Աղօթող ենք որ Տէրը ալ աւելիով օրհնէ իրենց կեանքն ու գործը Թէհրանաբնակ մեր եղբայրներուն մէջ:

Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը, այս տարի, նիւթական աւելի մեծ յատկացումով մը կ'օժանդակէ Թէհրանի մեր եղբայրներուն հոգեւոր ու կրթական գործին: Այսուհանդերձ, այդ շրջանի Աւետարանչական դաշտի բոլոր կարիքներուն հասնելու համար, Աւետարանչականը պէտք ունի աւելի լայն նիւթական միջոցներու: Արդ, կը խնդրենք մեր բոլոր անդամներէն ու բարեկամներէն որ շարունակեն աղօթել ու նիւթապէս օգնել Թէհրանահայ մեր եղբայրներուն, որոնք այս օրերուն այնքան կը կարօտին մեր քաջալերութեան:

## ԱՒԵՏԱՐԱՆԱԶԱԿԱՆԻ ՅՅՐԴ ՏԱՐԵԴԱՐՁԸ ՍԱՆ ՓԱՒԼՈՅԻ ՄԷՋ

Ուրբաթ, 4 Դեկտ. 1981ին, Սան Փաւլոյի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին, յատուկ հանդիսութիւնով մը նշեց Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան ՅՅՐԴ տարեդարձը: Հանդիսութիւնը, որուն ներկայ էին քոյր եկեղեցիներու հոգեւորականներն ու պաշտօնական ներկայացուցիչները, ինչպէս նաեւ Հայ գաղութի բոլոր հատուածներէն եկող մեծ բազմութիւն մը, առիթ ընծայեց, անգամ մը եւս վեր առնելու Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան կատարած գործին կարեւորութիւնը մեր ժողովուրդին մէջ: Օրուայ բանախօսը՝ Պրն. Արիւլաթո Աբրիքեան, ներկայացուց Աւետարանչականի նպատակը, ծառայութեան դաշտը ու միջոցները եւ ներկայ կարիքները: Պրն. Աբրիքեան, Նոյեմբեր ամսուն, Միացեալ Նահանգներ գտնուած միջոցին, այցելած էր Աւետարանչականի Փրէյմըսի կեդրոնատեղին եւ մօտէն ծանօթացած՝ Ընկերակցութեան կեանքին ու գործին:

Սան Փաւլոյի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին, ոչ միայն կանոնաւոր կերպով կ'օժանդակէ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան, այլեւ, աւետարանչական գնահատելի գործ կը կատարէ Սան Փաւլոյի մէջ:

Եկեղեցին ունի իր սեփական «Հայ Աւետարանական Ռատիօֆոն»ը, որուն միջոցով Աստուծոյ Խօսքը կը քարոզուի Հայ եւ Պրագիլցի հազարաւոր ունկընդիրներու: Եկեղեցին ունի նաեւ Սան Փաւլոյի մօտակայ գիւղաքաղաքներէն՝ Ֆէրրազ Տի Վասքոնսելոսի մէջ Աւետարանչական կեդրոն մը: Սան Փաւլոյի մեր եղբայրները հաստատած են նաեւ Հոգեւոր Գրականութեան Սպասարկութիւն մը, որուն միջոցով, հետեւողական աշխատանքով Սուրբ Գիրքեր, առօրեայ հոգեւոր խորհրդածութիւններու յատուկ գրքոյններ եւ հոգեւոր թերթիկներ ձեռքարկելու հաշտարաւոր բանտարկեալներու, ինչպէս նաեւ Հայ եւ Պրագիլցի անհատներու ու ընտանիքներու:

Մեր անդամներուն ու բարեկամներուն աղօթքներն ու նիւթական օժանդակութիւնը մեծապէս պիտի զօրացնեն ու քաջալերեն Սան Փաւլոյի մեր եղբայրները իրենց աւետարանչական նուիրումին ու ծառայութեան մէջ:

## ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻ ԳՐԱԿԱՆԱԳԷՏ ԼԵՒՈՆ ՀԱԽՎԵՐԴԵԱՆ ԿԸ ԴԱՍԱԽՕՄԷ ՀԱՅԿԱԶԵԱՆ ԳՈՒԼԵԾԻ ՄԷՋ

Անցեալ Դեկտեմբերին, Հայկազեան Գոլէճի Հայագիտական Ամպիոնի հրաւերով Պէյրութ այցելեց Հայրենի յայտնի գրական քննադատ եւ թատերագետ Դոկտ. Լ. Հախվերդեան եւ գրական դասախօսութիւններու շարք մը տուաւ Գոլէճի Հայ ուսանողութեան: Դոկտ. Լեւոն Հախվերդեան, իր Լիբանան կեցութեան ընթացքին, Հայկազեան Գոլէճի Հայագիտական Ամպիոնի կազմակերպութեամբ, դասախօսութիւններու ընդարձակ շարքով մը նաեւ հանդէս եկաւ Լիբանանահայ մտաւորականութեան առջեւ: Դասախօսութիւնները, որոնք տեղի ունեցան Հայկազեան Գոլէճի հանդիսասրահին մէջ, կը ներկայացնէին գրական հետեւեալ նիւթերը:-- «Յովհաննէս Թումանեանի կենսագիր Սիմոն Կարապետեանի «Թումանեանի կենսագիրը», «Գրականութիւնը», «Գրականութիւնը», «Գրականութիւնը Մահարիի Արուեստն ու Աշխարհահայեացքը», «Համո Սահեան եւ Ժամանակակից Բանաստեղծութիւնը», «Հրանդ Մաթեոսեան եւ Ժամանակակից Արձակը», «Հայ Թատրոնի եւ Սինեմարուեստի Անցած Ուղին» եւ «Պարոյր Սեւակի Բանաստեղծական Ճակատագիրը»:

Դոկտ. Հախվերդեանի բոլոր ելոյթներուն ներկայ եղան Լիբանանահայ ամէն հատուածներէ եկող հոծ թիւով մտաւորականներ, գրագէտներ եւ մշակութային ու հասարակական գործիչներ: Այս առիթով, Լիբանանահայ մամուլը շնորհակալութիւններ արտայայտեց Հայկազեան Գոլէճի նախաձեռնութիւնը եւ բարձր գնահատանքով անդադարձաւ Դոկտ. Հախվերդեանի ելոյթներուն մասին:

Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը, այս տարի, 127,000 տոլարի յատկացումով մը կ'օժանդակէ Հայկազեան Գոլէճին: Այս յատկացումէն կը նպաստաւորուին առաւելաբար Հայկական Ամպիոնն ու այն հայ ուսանողները, որոնք չեն կրնար ամբողջութեամբ վճարել իրենց կրթաթոշակը:

Գոլէճի ուսումնական ընթացիկ տարեշրջանի աշակերտութեան թիւն է 319: Հայ աշակերտութեան թիւն է 182, իսկ արաբ կամ այլ ազգի աշակերտութեանը՝ 137:

Այս տարի, Գոլէճի Խնամակալութիւնը բացած է նաեւ Գիշերօթիկի բաժին մը, օգնելու համար Արեւելեան Պէյրութ բնակող շուրջ 25 Հայ աշակերտներու, որոնք պարբերական կռիւներու պատճառով, յաճախ դժուարութիւն կ'ունենային Պէյրութի արեւելեան շրջանէն արեւմտեան շրջանը անցնելու:

Ուրախալի երեւոյթ է տեսնել, թէ Հայկազեան Գոլէճը, Լիբանանահայ գաղութին համար այս դժուարին օրերուն իսկ, կը շարունակէ իր դռները լայնօրէն բաց պահել շրջանի հայ եւ տեղացի ուսումնաստէնը երիտասարդութեան դիմաց: Բայց աւելին, ոգեւորիչ է հաստատել, թէ Հայկազեան Գոլէճը իր առաքելութեան համար, կը շարունակէ հանդիսանալ այն հազուագիւտ վայրերէն մէկը, ուր մեր հայրենի եւ սփռուքի, ինչպէս նաեւ մեր ժողովուրդի տարբեր հատուածներէն եկող մտաւորականներ կրնան ազգային միջոցաւ մէջ քով քովի գալ ու չքնիչ աշխատանք տանիլ, ի խնդիր մեր մշակոյթի գարգացման ու վերելքին:

## ՍՏԱՑՈՒԱԾ ԳԻՐՔԵՐ

●Եկեղեցի Արքայութիւն Գո: Հեղինակ՝ Վեր. Յովհաննէս Փ. Ահարոնեան: Ուրուագծային վերլուծում եւ մեանաբանութիւն Տէրունական Աղօթքի: 40 էջերէ բաղկացող այս գրքոյկը կրնայ գործածուիլ անձնական ու խմբային սերտողութիւններու համար եւ մեծապէս օգտակար հանդիսանալ «Հայր Մեր»ին իմաստը ստուգելու հասկնալու: Հրատարակութիւն՝ Միջին Արեւելքի Եկեղեցիներու Խորհուրդին, Պէյրութ, 1981: Գին՝ 1.50 տոլար: Ստանալու համար դիմել Աւետարանչականի Գրատան:

●Հայերը Լիբանանի Մէջ-Բ. եւ Գ. Հատորներ: Հեղինակ՝ Սիսակ Յակոբ Վարժապետեան: 1920 - 1980 շրջանի Լիբանանահայ Գաղութին պատմութիւնը ներկայացնող պատկերաւոր հատորներ. պատկերազարդ ու մանրամասն տեղեկագրութիւններով: Բ. Հատոր 543 էջ. Գ. Հատոր 583 էջ: Տպարան Սեւան, Պէյրութ, 1981: Խրաքանչիւր հատորին գին.- թղթակազմ՝ 30 տոլար, լաթակազմ՝ 50 տոլար: Ստանալու համար դիմել Աւետարանչականի Գրատան:

●Երկու Արեւմտեան Աշխարհ: Հեղինակ՝ Յարութիւն Պէրպէրեան: Անօրինակ ինքնատպութեամբ գրուած աւելի քան 320 քերթուածներէ բաղկացող հատոր մը: 368 էջ: G. Printing, լոս Անճելոս, 1981: Գին՝ 10 տոլար: Հեղինակին հասցէն՝ H. Berberian, 28415 Streamwood Lane, Southfield, Michigan, 48034.

## ԳԵՂՕՆ ՎԱՐԴԱՆԱՆՑ

Հայոց յաղթ երկիրն ու քաջ սրտերուն՝  
Խաւարն էր մտած կապարի մման:  
Պարսիկ պիղծ արեւն հոգ հայ Աստուծոյն  
Աստղը կը սպառնար միջոցի՝ յաւիտեան:

Բայց երբ Դեռնդեանք Աւարայրի վրան  
Աղօթքին սուրով զինուած քալեցին,  
Իրենց հաւատքէն այգի վառեցան  
Ճախնախոտ ու մութ Տղմուտի ափին. . .

Նիգակն ոսոխին ուղղուած էր Հոգւոյն,  
Ուր կը փոթրկէր դրօշն ազատութեան. . .  
Բայց յորմէհետեւ Վարդանանք բոցուն  
Խաչով կոռեցան դաշտին Շաւարշան

Եւ առուակ գարդարեցին գայն  
Արիւնով սուրբի՝ զափնիմե՛ր կ'ափն  
Վառ էջերն ի վար Վեպին Հայկազեան  
Ինչպէս մախնախոտ Տղմուտի ափին. . .

Բուք մը կը փորձէր փլել բոցն Հայուն. . .  
Այն օրէն սակայն, ուր ցորեա՛ն ցորեա՛ն  
Ինկան հայրենի սուրբ ակօսներուն  
Հայեր, — պերճ իշխան թէ խեղճ շինական,

Հայ սրտերուն մէջ սահմանէ սահման՝  
Ամբանդ ու անժանգ խաչե՛ր կը փայլին,  
Մինչ կը ծածանի արեւն յաղութեան՝  
Ա՛յ ծաղկած, լուսցած Տղմուտի ափին. . .

ՃԱԳ Ս. ՅԱԿՈԲԵԱՆ



# OBITUARIES

## MRS. MARIE GUEKGUEZIAN



Mrs. Marie Guekguezian and her husband, The Rev. Yenovk Guekguezian, an eloquent preacher, who predeceased her a long time ago.

Mrs. Marie Guekguezian was called by God to be with Him on Tuesday, November 3, 1981 in Los Angeles. She died of cardiac arrest in her home quickly and peacefully, immediately after her daily devotions. She had an intuitive feeling that the end was near. Alice, her oldest daughter, said that prior to her death she called her and there was an unusual jog in her voice.

Mrs. Guekguezian was born and raised in Adana, Turkey. After her graduation from the American Mission Schools, she taught in Adana and Kharn where she met her future husband. She too witnessed the Armenian massacres and suffered the pain of losing her loved ones. Upon her fell the responsibility of taking care of her mother, her younger brothers and sister. She continued teaching in Armenian refugee centers in Turkey and Syria.

In Lebanon, while Rev. Yenovk Guekguezian was preparing himself for his ministry, she raised her children almost single-handedly and while he was doing his field work in Kessab she continued teaching in church related schools under very primitive conditions. She ministered tirelessly with her husband, serving joyously and courageously the varied needs of the parish, her family and friends. The untimely death of her husband did not stop her ministry. Where there was a need, there was Mrs. Guekguezian. She loved people and in her Bible Study Groups, her visits, she rejoiced with them when they were happy and wept with them when they were in distress. She visited the shut-ins and became a friend of the lonely and the needy.

Her daughter, Alice Leatherman, says of her: "Her disciplined life was an inspiration to my husband and me while living with us. The day started with one hour of study and prayer in the early hours of the morning. Even when her eyes weakened, she continued her devotional study to the last day of her life. The Scriptures and prayer were necessary nutrients in her daily life to strengthen her for whatever was in store that day."

Maggie Matossian, the second daughter, adds: "Every morning after her devotions, mother used to come up to me to say, 'Everything works for good to them who love God.' She knew where she was going and she was happy in that knowledge. She had completed the task she was placed here to do and she wanted to rest. We are grateful to God for granting her wish to die peacefully and quickly."

The Rev. Hovhannes N. Karjian, the Moderator of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical

Churches in the Near East writes: "Mrs. Marie Guekguezian rendered many years of fruitful service to the Armenian Evangelical Union as a worthy mate of her husband and after his death as a dedicated deaconess at the Armenian Evangelical First Church. Her valiant service in many churches in Lebanon will be long remembered as she served selflessly for the glory of God."

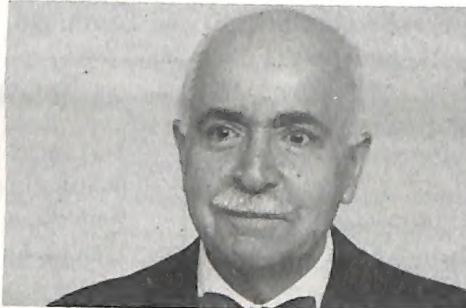
Mrs. Guekguezian's memorial service was one of a celebration at the Church of the Hills Forest Lawn in Hollywood Hills. Family and many friends were there to pay their respect. In lieu of flowers, the family wished the donations to go towards the building of Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Pension Fund through the AMAA. She felt she was fortunate as she was well taken care of by her family. But she knew that other pastors' widows were not as fortunate. She worked tirelessly for this cause which came next to her love for the work in Chtaura.

The memorial service in Beirut, Lebanon was likewise a service of celebration highlighting the quality of her ministry to so many.

The AMAA, in the persons of the President, George Philibosian, the Executive and Field Directors as well as the Board members and Staff would like to extend sincere condolences to her three wonderful daughters, Alice, Maggie and Shoghig and their families. She will be long remembered because she deserves to be remembered.

What is immortality but her life in our lives.

## HARRY YESAYIAN, M.D.



Harry Yesayian

The funeral service for Dr. Harry Yesayian who died on December 26, 1981 was held at the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit on December 28 with the Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian officiating.

Beginning his eulogy for this great Armenian, the Rev. Tootikian said: "We are here today to pay our tribute to someone who has shared life with us and who now has laid his burdens down. We have come here not without hope, but to renew again the hope we share as Christians; to affirm our faith in God, who is the Creator, the Sustainer, and Redeemer of our universe; to confirm our faith in God, Who is love and Who loves us in spite of our shortcomings and sins."

The Rev. Tootikian went on to highlight the qualities and characteristics of Dr. Yesayian's distinguished life. He said that Dr. Yesayian was:

- Endowed with a good intellect, with an alert and independent mind;
- A progressive man, with the focus of life centered in the future;
- A man with executive talent, with the ability to plan, organize and execute;
- A dynamic person with the capacity of being tireless and never shirking his duties;
- A man of strong will;

- A good patriot, keeping his Armenian and Aintab roots, but loving his adopted country;
- A good family man, a devoted husband, a loving father and grandfather;
- A good church man with a Christian outlook and a true Armenian Evangelical.

We in the AMAA circles would like to cite an additional virtue. He was a mission-minded Christian the proofs of which are his extensive labors on behalf of the Armenian Missionary Association Chapter of Detroit and his generous monetary arrangements with the AMAA. For Dr. Yesayian, AMAA represented one of the most vital, dynamic and substantial Armenian charitable organizations in the United States. On the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the Association, when it celebrated its benevolent history, he and his wife made a pledge and later augmented it to \$20,000. The amount established the Dr. & Mrs. H.G. Yesayian Fund for \$10,000 and the Luther Nouri & Jemile Harajjian Fund for \$10,000. The income of the latter fund, established as a memorial to Mrs. Yesayian's parents, is to be used for the care of the sick and needy in medical clinics.

Dr. Yesayian extended his time and talent to serve the Armenian Evangelical community in the role of Board member of the AMAA, as well as that of Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of the Eastern States.

It is with heartfelt sorrow that the AMAA Board, its President, George Philibosian, the Executive and Field Directors, Officers and Staff offer our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Merin and to all the kin on both sides of the family.

## MRS. MARY (MISSISSIAN) KOUNDAKJIAN



Mary Koundakjian

The Reverend Vincent Kumjian, Pastor of the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown, led the funeral service for Mrs. Koundakjian and gave the following eulogy which we reproduce below in full:

"As we come together in this moment of worship, each of us brings a certain knowledge of Mary Koundakjian - her son, her grandchildren, her family, her live-in companion, her co-workers, her friends and her minister.

In our personal relationships with her we hold many fond memories; and now we come to join our prayers together.

When we think of Mary Koundakjian we recall that one of her outstanding characteristics was a never-failing spirit of gratitude for all the blessings of life which she received and enjoyed. Often she told me: 'I am so grateful for everything, for life, for friends, for Charlie - who is always with me - for the church. . . I love everybody. I thank God for everything.'

This was characteristic of her entire life.

Today we rejoice and thank God for such a life, and we seek to immitate or emulate those gifts, which were particular to Mary, which brought her

such joy, satisfaction and rich blessings.

Mary Koundakjian was born in Marash as Mary Mississian. She attended the Girls College in Marash - which she called 'Ghazlarin Mektabi.' She married Garabed Koundakjian in 1923 and they had two sons Richard and Robert. Their marriage lasted 52 years until 1975 when Charlie went to his eternal rest. Till her death on November 28, 1981 she cherished the memory of her beloved husband.

Mary was one of the founders of the Armenian Women's Educational Club, and, one of the originators of the Women's Benevolent Society of our church. I have heard many times that she and Charlie were the backbone of the church.

Mary often told me how she and her husband started in the Lamejun business. She said that no one ever heard of producing Lamajun for sale to the public, and they wondered if it would succeed? Then, they began and worked long, hard hours at it. One time, when she was reminiscing about this I said to her 'Digin Marie what else did you do in those days?' And she said, 'Oh my Charlie Boy and I used to listen to the Armenian Radio Hour.'

She always felt sad about families breaking up, and husbands and wives leaving each other. She always finished by saying that she and Charlie got along so well together.

She was so grateful for her constant companion for the past 2 years - Bertha Tootikian. Bertha's presence added so much to Mary's life.

Mary was one of the few people, that audibly made affirmations during my prayers with her.

We affirm today the life of Mary Koundakjian - her character, her humility, her endurance, her victory over sickness and death. We will always thank God for Digin Marie."

The Board of Directors, the Executive Directors and the AMAA Staff remember Charlie (Garabed) and Mary as caring, sharing committed Christians. Their charities to the unfortunate through the AMAA were most generous. May God's blessings and peace be with her surviving kin.

## MRS. AZNIV DEMIRJIAN



Azniv Demirjian

Azniv Demirjian after a full and exemplary life passed on to her eternal rest on October 4, 1981.

Mrs. Demirjian, born in 1895 in Aintab, Turkey to Kevork and Yester Ishkanian family, lost her father when she was 5 years old. From very early in life, she learned to trust in God, to help others and make the best of time and opportunity.

She graduated from Aintab Seminary in 1912, was married in 1915 to Artin Demirjian and settled in Aleppo, Syria where God blessed them with four daughters and one son - Loucine, Yeranouhi, Helen, Alice and George.

Azniv and her husband were a very sensitive, compassionate, hospitable couple. After their in-laws passed away, they volunteered to take care of an 85 and 55 year old elderly couple who were Mrs. Demirjian's cousins, with the wife paralyzed and in bed. Azniv brought them to their house and night and day cared for them until their death. Azniv always tried to help others in need and in sickness.

Azniv was a faithful member of the Armenian Evangelical Martyrs Church in Aleppo, and when the family came to the States in 1959, she felt very much at home in the Armenian Memorial Church - having loved ones and friends in and around the church.

Funeral services were held at the Memorial Church on October 7, 1981. The minister, the Rev. Vincent J. Kumjian, delivered the eulogy mentioning that for 30 years Azniv had been the Secretary of the Women's Benevolent Society serving lovingly and conscientiously. He mentioned, too, about her kind hospitality and her generosity to all. She was honored by the Armenian Memorial Church two years ago - when she was elected Honorary Deacon of the Church.

Azniv loved her family and was always proud of her 23 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren most of whom were present to pay their last respects. Interment was at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Arlington, but her memory will be entombed in the hearts of those who knew her.

The Board of Directors extend their sincere sympathies to her four daughters, son George and the grand and great grandchildren.

## PAUL GARABEDIAN, SR.



Paul Garabedian, Sr. and Veronica, his surviving wife.

Submitted by the Rev. John Mikkosian Paul Garabedian, Sr., lifelong resident of Salem, N.H. and member of the Ararat Armenian Congregational Church, died suddenly in his home on November 29, 1981. Throughout his life he was a man who was always reaching for a dream. As a young man working on the farm he had love for machinery, and was always pulling things apart and putting them back together. Paul Garabedian and Sons, Inc., Salem's largest locally owned construction company, got its start when the young Paul brought his first dump truck to make the farm work easier.

Next came a bulldozer and then the slow but steady acquisition of land. The dream gave way to the reality so that today Paul Garabedian's name represents Salem's leading individual property owner. He was truly a highly respected man in his field. Paul had a reputation for his big heart. He was the kind of guy you went to for help, advice and support.

Paul married the former Veronica Gamarekian

of Paterson, New Jersey. The couple was blessed with three sons, Charles, Paul, Jr., and Jack. Other survivors include a brother, Nash of Salem; a sister, Mrs. Mary Ajemian of Michigan; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Beyond any doubt it was his grandchildren that gave the last year of his life its rich and full blessing.

Besides his involvement with the Ararat Armenian Congregational Church, Paul was a member of the Board of Directors of the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Salem Contractors' Association, along with various other memberships in contracting organizations and a member of the Derry-Salem Lodge of Elks.

Funeral services for Paul Garabedian, Sr. were held on December 3, 1981 at the Ararat Armenian Congregational Church, the Rev. Mr. John Mikkosian officiating.

Editor: The AMAA Board and staff extend sincere sympathies to his wife, Mrs. Veronica Garabedian, to Charles, Paul Jr., Jack, Mary and all the kin. Peace be with you all.

## The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

<b>Mrs. Ruth Habib</b> Fresno, CA	
<b>*Mr. Sarkis Kahramanian</b> Los Angeles, CA	
<b>*Mr. Kevork Kerkejian</b> Ainjar, Lebanon	
<b>*Mr. Puzant Varjabedian</b> Studio City, CA	
<b>*Mr. David Kulhanjian</b> Rivervale, NJ	June 12, 1981
<b>Mrs. Mable Demirjian</b> W. Orange, NJ	Aug. 5, 1981
<b>Mr. Edward Deovlet</b> Novato, CA	Sept. 5, 1981
<b>Mr. George Tashjian</b> New York, NY	Sept. 19, 1981
<b>Mr. Earl Gazarian</b> Glendale, CA	Sept. 30, 1981
<b>Mrs. Takoochie Kapigian</b> New York, NY	Oct. 18, 1981
<b>Mr. Stephan Tokatlian</b> Beirut, Lebanon	Oct. 27, 1981
<b>Mr. Paul Garabedian</b> Salem, NH	Nov., 1981
<b>*Mrs. Marie Guekguezian</b> Los Angeles, CA	Nov. 3, 1981
<b>*Mrs. Marie Jernazian</b> Los Angeles, CA	Nov., 1981
<b>Mrs. Mary Koundakjian</b> Belmont, MA	Nov., 1981
<b>Mr. Michael Avakian</b> Englewood, NJ	Nov. 10, 1981
<b>*Mr. Henry Bedros Terzian</b> Los Angeles, CA	Nov. 10, 1981
<b>Mrs. Maria Ordjanian</b> Phoenix, ZA	Nov. 17, 1981
<b>*Mrs. Mary Garabedian</b> Westmont, NJ	Nov. 28, 1981
<b>Mrs. Zabel Baydarian</b> Detroit, MI	Dec. 20, 1981
<b>Dr. Harry Yesayian</b> Lathrop Village, MI	Dec. 26, 1981

\*Memorials were designated for AMAA.



## BEQUESTS

A bequest is simply a gift made by Will to a named individual or institution. It is important to remember that charitable bequests are excluded from your adjusted gross estate for estate tax purposes. This means that the cost to your heirs of a bequest may be lower—often, substantially lower—than the dollar value of the bequest.

A bequest to the Armenian Missionary Association of America can be a **specific bequest** of cash, of named securities or of other property. Or it can be a **residuary bequest** of all or some of the remainder of your estate after the payment of debts, taxes, administrative expenses and specific bequests to other beneficiaries.

A **contingent bequest** would take effect only if the primary beneficiaries predecease you or are otherwise disqualified as legatees. Because a contingent bequest to the AMAA in no way compromises the interests of spouse, children, parents or other primary beneficiaries, a younger donor might well wish to honor the AMAA by adding one to his or her Will.

Because an outright bequest to the AMAA, as well as certain bequests in trust, reduce the size of your taxable estate, such a bequest may well be a useful instrument in your estate planning.

A bequest, like a gift, may be either unrestricted or restricted in form. Most donors favor unrestricted bequests, which the AMAA can apply to meet any of its future financial needs.

## SECURITY IN GIVING

Have you wanted to use your resources to support the work of the Armenian Missionary Association of America but hesitated, fearful of unexpected emergencies? If so, you will be happy to know there is a way you can do so with no financial risks.

A **Revocable Trust** makes it possible for you to transfer money, stocks (including mutual funds), bonds or other property to the AMAA. In the role of trustee, the Association will hold your property and pay income to you or another named beneficiary(ies). Should an emergency such as loss of job or sickness arise, the trust is revocable.

This is an excellent vehicle for Christian giving. It provides security in giving while allowing you to make generous use of your assets to further the Gospel. A revocable trust offers you:

**SIMPLICITY:** These trusts are easy to understand, set up and revoke.

**FLEXIBILITY:** They can be funded in a number of different ways, added to or revoked; the income designated to one or more beneficiaries or given to support the AMAA ministries.

**EXPEDIENCY:** Though considered a part of the estate for tax purposes, such a trust passes outside probate court, saving time and expense.

**PRIVACY:** Trusts, unlike wills, are private agreements and not matters of public record. If you wish, no one need know the content of the trust

except the Association and your beneficiary(ies).

Most important, a revocable trust offers you an opportunity to help preach God's Word. If you would like further information about how you can participate in this meaningful giving program through a revocable trust, please feel free to write or phone the AMAA office and speak to one of the AMAA Directors.

### SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND YOUTH CONVENTION OF THE AEUNA

Date: June 23-17, 1982

Place: York University, Toronto

Fees: Adults \$160; Youth \$150

LOCK the days in your calendar so you won't miss the opportunity. Remember to keep the event in your prayers.

CLIP AND MAIL TODAY

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( ) Please send me a free copy of the booklet,  
"37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That  
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